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SUBJECT: SOUTHEAST TURKEY PRESS SUMMARY,
SEPTEMBER 18, 2003

1. This is the Southeastern Turkey press summary for September 18, 2003. Please note that Turkish press reports often contain errors or exaggerations; AmConsulate Adana does not vouch for the accuracy of the reports summarized here.

POLITICAL, SECURITY, HUMAN RIGHTS

2. Evrensel / Diyarbakir Law Bar Association accused the Midyat prison management of mistreating the prisoners and not providing medical treatment for them.

3. Evrensel / In Uludere, Sirnak province, Nusret Berk stepped on a landmine and got wounded.

4. Evrensel, Milli Gazete / About 130 women applied to Diyarbakir Law Bar Association Women's Right Center for legal help. Most of these women have been abused by their husbands and seek free legal help from the center.

5. Evrensel / Gaziantep Security officials detained 17 members of the Democratic People's Party (DEHAP) due to the speeches they gave during the press conference on September 14.

6. Ekspres, Turkiye / Members of a group interested in the human rights aspects involved in Turkey's bid to join the EU came to Adana and visited Governor Kemal Onal. The project covers the prevention of torture in the prisons, freedom of speech, religion and thoughts, rights of the disabled, women and children.

7. Sabah Guney / Security forces in Antakya found approximately \$7000 worth of illegal Ecstasy tablets. Two people involved in the distribution of the tablets were arrested.

ECONOMIC

8. Hurriyet / Young Businessmen Associations of Gaziantep, Cukurova, Hatay, Iskenderun, Adana, Mersin, Mardin, Diyarbakir and Siirt founded South and Southeast Young Businessmen Association. The Center of the association will be in Gaziantep.
REID